

## Instructions for Collecting Repeat Samples and the Five (5) Routine/Distribution Samples

### 1. How many repeat samples do I need to collect?

The number of repeat samples a system needs to collect is based on the amount of routine/distribution samples a system collects per month. All the repeat samples will need to be taken in one day, and **WITH IN 24 HOURS OF BEING NOTIFIED OF THE POSITIVE SAMPLE**. You will also want to mark the submission form “repeat” for the sample type.

#### **If your system collects one (1) routine/distribution sample per month:**

Then your system will need to **take four (4) repeat samples**. The four repeat samples will need to come from the **original coliform found site**, a site upstream, a site downstream, and the fourth sample can come from a site upstream or downstream. The **upstream and downstream sites** need to be **within five (5) connections** from the original coliform found site.

#### **If your system collects more than one routine/distribution sample per month:**

Then your system will need to collect **three (3) repeat samples per coliform found sample**. The three repeat samples will need to come from the **original coliform found sample site**, a site upstream, and a site down stream. The **upstream and downstream sites** need to be **within five (5) connections** from the original coliform found sample site.

#### **What if?**

**My system only has sites that are not five connections away from the original coliform found site?**

Sample sites can be anywhere within five (5) connections from the original coliform found site.

**My coliform found sample came from the end of a line, or from an entry point, from where do I take my repeat samples?**

You will be taking a repeat sample from your original coliform found site, and the rest of your repeat samples will either all be upstream or downstream depending on from where your sample was collected (entry point/end of line).

**My system only has one sample tap? (Usually the case for non-community water systems.)**

You will be taking all of your repeat samples from the one sample tap.

### 2. What do I need to do if any of my repeat samples come back coliform found?

If your system gets any repeat coliform found samples, your system must **repeat the set of repeat samples until a set of not found results are obtained**. It is important for your system to make sure that they have gone over all system checks and sampling protocol, to ensure not found results. Your system may also want to take samples marked as special before the additional repeat samples are collected. Samples that are marked special do not count against your record, they are samples taken in an attempt to observe any problems existing in your system.

### 3. Do I have to collect five (5) routine/distribution samples the month after a coliform found month?

**If your system collects less than five (5) routine/distribution samples per month, then your system is required to take five (5) routine/distribution samples the month after a coliform found month.**

If your system has to take these samples, your system only has to do a total of five (5) routine/distribution samples. (These include your regular routine/distribution samples.) These samples come from your sample site plan, and should be marked as distribution on your sample submission form. **(Please note that in some cases you may be taking 9 samples in one month, 4 repeats and 5 distribution samples.)**